

REMARKS

Claims 34-49, including independent claim 34 is currently pending in the present application. Independent claim 34, for instance, is directed to a package comprising a paper product and a packaging material that encloses the paper product so that a headspace is defined therebetween. The package also contains metal modified nanoparticles having an effective particle diameter of less than about 500 nanometers. The metal modified nanoparticles are configured to neutralize gaseous or odorous compounds within the headspace. As a result of the claimed invention, odors and other undesired gases may be removed from the headspace of, for instance, bathroom tissue and paper towel products.

In the Office Action, previous claims 23-31 and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,204,111 to Handjani, et al. Handjani, et al. is directed to a process for producing alginate capsules by slowly introducing an aqueous solution of at least one alginate into an aqueous solution of at least one polyvalent metal salt (e.g., calcium chloride). Once formed by gelification, the alginate capsules are then extracted or removed from the salt solution. (See e.g., Cols. 1-2). Handjani, et al. indicates that the aqueous alginate solution may also contain certain cosmetic additives or active agents. Among a numerous laundry list of possible active agents, Handjani, et al. indicates that nanoparticles or nanocapsules may be employed.

Despite cursorily mentioning the potential use of nanoparticles as an active agent, however, Handjani, et al. fails to disclose various limitations of the present claims. Nowhere does Handjani, et al. disclose, for instance, that the nanoparticles are "modified" with a metal as required by the present claims. The polyvalent metal ions of

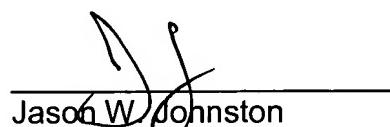
Handjani, et al. are instead used to crosslink the mannuronic units and gularonic units of the alginate. In any event, Handjani, et al. completely fails to disclose a *packaging material* that encloses a *paper product* (e.g., tissue product or paper towel) as required by the present claims. To the contrary, Handjani, et al. is specifically directed to a *cosmetic composition containing alginate capsules*. Thus, for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the present claims patentably define over Handjani, et al.

It is believed that the present application is in complete condition for allowance and, therefore, request favorable reconsideration and allowance. However, Examiner Aughenbaugh is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned, should any issues remain after consideration of this Amendment.

Please charge any additional fees required by this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 04-1403.

Respectfully requested,

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